**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for recording and reproducing information, comprising:

a reading device <u>configured</u> to read out information recorded on a recording medium;

a first recording device in which the information ~~that is~~ read out by the reading device is written;

an output device <u>configured</u> to output the information written in the first recording device;

a second recording device in which the information ~~that is~~ read out by the reading device is recorded;

<u>an operation device configured to be used to issue operation commands including a selection command newly selecting information among all the information recorded on the recording medium, the newly selected information being different from information currently outputted from the output device;</u> and

a controller <u>configured</u> to ~~control the reading, first recording, output , and second recording devices such that an operation specified by an operation command issued from an operation device and directed to all the information recorded on the recording medium is performed, during an operation for recording the information into the second recording device; and the recording operation is continued~~, <u>in cases where the output device is in operation for outputting the information and the second recording device is in operation for recording the information therein, respond to the selection command by controlling</u>

(i) the reading device so as to read from the recording medium the information consisting of

the newly selected information and halfway recorded information subjected to recording in the second

recording device at a time when the selection command is issued,

(ii) the newly selected information read by the reading device such that the newly selected

information is written into the first recording device,

(iii) the newly selected information written in the first recording device such that the newly

selected information is read out and outputted via the output device, and

(iv) the halfway recorded information read by the reading device such that the halfway

recorded information is recorded into the second recording device so as to keep recording positions of

the halfway recorded information in the second recording device continuous before and after the

issuance of the selection command.


Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reading

device ~~devices~~ is configured to read out, from the recording medium, the information to be outputted

via the output device ~~from the recording medium~~ at a speed faster than an output ~~seed~~ speed at which

the output device outputs the information written in the first recording device.


Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information recorded on

the recording medium is composed of compressed data and the reading device is configured to read

out the compressed data recorded on the recording medium at a speed equal to or slower than a speed

at which the output device outputs the compressed data written in the first recording device.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for recording and reproducing information, comprising:

a reading device <u>configured</u> to read out information recorded on a recording medium;

a first recording device in which the information ~~that is~~ read out by the reading device is written;

an output device <u>configured</u> to output the information written in the first recording device;

a second recording device in which the information ~~that is~~ read out by the reading device is recorded;

<u>an operation device configured to be used to issue operation commands including a selection command newly selecting information among all the information recorded on the recording medium, the newly selected information being different from information currently outputted from the output device;</u> and

~~a controller to control the reading, first recording, output , and second recording devices such that an operation for recording information into the second recording device is started at a time when an amount of the information accumulated in the first recording device reaches a given amount; an operation specified by an operation command issued from an operation device and directed to all the information recorded on the recording medium is performed, during the operation for recording the information into the second recording device; and the recording operation is continued even after the operation command was issued~~

<u>a controller configured to</u>

<u>start recording the information into the second recording device at a time when an amount of the information accumulated in the first recording device reaches a given amount; and</u>

respond to, in cases where the output device is in operation for outputting the information and the second recording device is in operation for recording the information therein, the selection command by controlling

(i) the reading device so as to read from the recording medium the information consisting of the newly selected information and halfway-recorded information subjected to recording in the second recording device at a time when the selection command is issued,

(ii) the newly selected information read by the reading device such that the newly selected information is written into the first recording device,

(iii) the newly selected information written in the first recording device such that the newly selected information is read out and outputted via the output device, and

(iv) the halfway recorded information read by the reading device such that the halfway recorded information is recorded into the second recording device so as to keep recording positions of the halfway recorded information in the second recording device continuous before and after the issuance of the selection command.


Claim 5 (Currently Amended):  The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the reading devices device is configured to read out, from the recording medium, the information to be outputted via the output device from the recording medium at a speed faster than an output seed speed at which the output device outputs the information written in the first recording device.


Claim 6 (Original):  The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the information recorded on the recording medium is composed of compressed data and the reading device is configured to read

out the compressed data recorded on the recording medium at a speed equal to or slower than a speed

at which the output device outputs the compressed data written in the first recording device.


Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method of recording and reproducing information recorded

on a recording medium, comprising ~~the~~ steps of:

reading out the information recorded on the recording medium;

writing the read-out information into a first recording device;

outputting the information written in the first recording device <u>via an output device</u>;

recording the read-out information from the recording medium into a second recording device;

<u>receiving operation commands including a selection command for newly selecting</u>

<u>information among all the information recorded on the recording medium, the newly selected</u>

<u>information being different from information currently outputted from the output device; and</u>

~~performing an operation specified by an operation command issued from an operation device~~

~~and directed to all the information recorded on the recording medium, during an operation for~~

~~recording the information into the second recording device; and~~

~~allowing the recording operation to be continued~~

<u>responding to, in cases where the output device is in operation for outputting the information</u>

<u>and the second recording device is in operation for recording the information therein, the selection</u>

<u>command by</u>

<u>(i) reading from the recording medium the information consisting of the newly selected</u>

<u>information and halfway-recorded information subjected to recording in the second recording device</u>

<u>at a time when the selection command is issued,</u>

(ii) writing the newly selected information into the first recording device,

(iii) reading out and outputting, via the output device, the newly selected information written in the first recording device, and

(iv) recording the halfway recorded information into the second recording device so as to keep recording positions of the halfway recorded information in the second recording device continuous before and after the issuance of the selection command.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A program recorded in a memory and[[,]] ~~which is~~ readable by a computer[[,]] for recording and reproducing information recorded on a recording medium, the program read from the memory and installed in the computer allowing the computer to ~~performing~~ perform the steps:

~~reading out the information recorded on the recording medium;~~

~~writing the read-out information into a first recording device;~~

~~outputting the information written in the first recording device;~~

~~recording the read-out information from the recording medium into a second recording device;~~

receiving operation commands including a selection command for newly selecting information among all the information recorded on the recording medium, the newly selected information being different from information currently outputted from the output device; and

~~performing an operation specified by an operation command issued from an operation device~~

~~and directed to all the information recorded on the recording medium, during an operation for~~

~~recording the information into the second recording device; and~~

~~allowing the recording operation to be continued~~

responding to, in cases where the output device is in operation for outputting the information

and the second recording device is in operation for recording the information therein, the selection

command by

(i) reading from the recording medium the information consisting of the newly selected

information and halfway-recorded information subjected to recording in the second recording device

at a time when the selection command is issued,

(ii) writing the newly selected information into a first recording device,

(iii) reading out and outputting, via the output device, the newly selected information written

in the first recording device, and

(iv) recording the halfway recorded information into the second recording device so as to keep

recording positions of the halfway recorded information in a second recording device continuous

before and after the issuance of the selection command.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An information recording medium in which the computer-

readable program ~~according to claim 9~~ is stored, the program being for recording and reproducing

information recorded on a recording medium, the program read from the information recording

medium and installed in the computer allowing the computer to perform the steps:

receiving operation commands including a selection command for newly selecting

information among all the information recorded on the recording medium, the newly selected

information being different from information currently outputted from the output device; and

responding to, in cases where the output device is in operation for outputting the information

and the second recording device is in operation for recording the information therein, the selection

command by

(i) reading from the recording medium the information consisting of the newly selected

information and halfway-recorded information subjected to recording in the second recording device

at a time when the selection command is issued,

(ii) writing the newly selected information into a first recording device,

(iii) reading out and outputting, via the output device, the newly selected information written

in the first recording device, and

(iv) recording the halfway recorded information into the second recording device so as to keep

recording positions of the halfway recorded information in a second recording device continuous

before and after the issuance of the selection command.


Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (New): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller comprises:

means for accepting the selection command when the output device is in operation for outputting the information and the second recording device is in operation for recording therein the information;

means for allowing the reading device to read from the recording medium the information consisting of the newly selected information and the halfway recorded information sequentially by turns every predetermined amount assigned to each of the newly selected information and the halfway recorded information;

means for writing the newly selected information into the first recording device, the newly selected information being read by the reading device;

means for reading and outputting, via the output device, the newly selected information written in the first recording device; and

means for recording the halfway recorded information read by the reading device into the second recording device such that recording positions of the halfway recorded information in the second recording device is kept continuous before and after the issuance of the selection command.


Claim 14 (New): The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the reading devices is configured to read out, from the recording medium, the information to be outputted via the output device at a speed faster than an output speed at which the output device outputs the information written in the first recording device.

Claim 15 (New): The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the information recorded on the recording medium is composed of compressed data and the reading device is configured to read out the compressed data recorded on the recording medium at a speed equal to or slower than a speed at which the output device outputs the compressed data written in the first recording device.